

INSTRUCTIONAlternative Education

I. Principals may award a student a standard unit of credit without having met the 140 clock hours of instruction requirement. The principal may also award to a student a verified unit of credit should the student pass the applicable Standards of Learning Assessment or a State Board of Education-approved substitute test.

II. Student mastery of course content is defined as one or more of the following:

- a. certification by an accredited institution of higher education that a student has successfully mastered the content and learning objectives of a course while participating in an accelerated or advanced program of study;
- b. student achievement scores on a state-Board of Education-approved substitute test for verified credit that meet the state established passing score;
- c. a passing grade on a locally-developed final exam for a high school academic or elective course; or,
- d. a score earning a student industry certification in a career and technical program approved by the state Board of Education.

III. Students meeting one or more of the criteria listed above, and who have received the approval of their principal, may earn a verified unit of credit through one of the following:

- a. by achieving a passing score on an applicable Standards of Learning assessment; or
- b. by achieving a passing score on a state Board of Education approved substitute test; or,
- c. by earning industry certification in a career and technical program approved by the state

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Board of Education. Students gaining such
certifications may apply the industry

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certification to the student-selected
verified credit provision of graduation
requirement only.

IV. Appeals of a principal's decision to deny a standard unit of credit based on student mastery of course content shall be directed to the superintendent or designee of the superintendent. The superintendent, or designee, shall review all pertinent information regarding the denial of award of a standard unit of credit. The decision to overrule or uphold the decision of the principal shall be communicated in writing to the student and parent/guardian, if the student is not of age-of-majority.

See also Regulation 7-28, Graduation Requirements

Approved by Division Superintendent: February 25, 2003